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APPLICATION OF THE TWO-YEAR PLAN IN ALBANIA

The Two-Year Plan for 1949 and 1950, the first state plan, is inordinately important since it was instituted after overcoming the difficulties of 1948. The year 1948 was most grievous for the Albanian people because of the infamous intervention by the Belgrade Trotskyites in the internal affairs of Albania. In the 3 years which followed the liberation, Albanian economy has been greatly hampered by the unfriendly activity of the Yugoslav Trotskyite leaders and their agents in Albania.

The Two-Year Plan calls for increased production in mining, industry, and agriculture. The largest investments will be made in these three sections, which, along with communications, will amount to 86.78 percent of the total investments. In the course of the plan, the investments will amount to 4,147 million lek.

The mining section has realized 75.27 percent of the plan, which is equivalent to 220.80 percent of the 1938 production. The production value has been realized 84.4 percent, or 321.6 percent of prewar. Oil production has been realized 152.6 percent.

The area under agricultural cultivation has reached 317,000 hectares, or 143.3 percent more than prewar.

During 1948, large investments were made in order to improve industry and mining, the mainstays of economy.

The sugar mill at Korce has been completed and put into operation; work has continued on the textile mill at Tirana and on the "Enver" spare parts plant; and investments have been made for industrial enterprises already in operation.

The budget of the Two-Year Plan provides for investments as follows: industry 26.61 percent, communications 26.30 percent, mining 20.17 percent, agriculture 13.17 percent, buildings of local importance 3.24 percent, public health 1.80 percent, and public education 1.72 percent.

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Comparing the investments of the plan for the year 1950 with the investments of 1948, the following percentages result:

	1948 %	1948 %
Mining industry	131.4%	218%
Communications	288%	96.4%
Agriculture	244%	103%

It can be seen from the above that the greatest investments are in industry and mining. Albania has great riches in her subsoil and she receives valuable assistance from the Soviet Union in exploiting them. There are rich deposits of petroleum, chromium, copper, nickel, bauxite, pyrites, and other ores which are to be mined under the Two-Year Plan and put to public use.

The plan provides for the investment of 836 million lek. There will be 110,000 meters of drillings for the exploration of new petroleum fields, in order to verify the reserves for later plans. Petroleum production in 1950 will be 159 percent compared to 1948. Pipe lines will be built to take care of the transport of petroleum.

Twelve million lek will be spent to prepare for the construction of new refineries and the existing refineries will be expanded and equipped.

Exploitation in 1950 will amount to 372 percent compared to production realized in 1948. New explorations will be financed.

The 1950 production of the lignite mines will be 250 percent compared to 1948. This increased production will assure the railroads the necessary fuel and will also permit the people to use coal instead of wood for heating.

At the bitumen mines in Selznice, there will be 13,600 meters of exploratory drilling in order to assure sufficient reserves so that the 1950 production may reach 123 percent of that of 1948.

There will be 4,650 meters of prospecting drilling in order to verify the copper reserves. The 1950 production is to be 363 percent of the 1948.

Fifteen million lek will be allocated for mineral prospecting. In order to realize the state plan for mining, a number of things must be done: rationalized exploitation, organization of work and fixing of work norms, improvement in the living conditions of the miners, and the building of model dwellings for them.

Industry will be developed and the existing factories will be enlarged and put on a more rationalized basis. The Two-Year Plan provides for the investment of 1,103,000,000 lek for this purpose.

A large cotton textile mill will be built at Tirana which will have a yearly capacity of 20 million square meters. Production will begin in 1951 and 374 million lek will be invested.

Other existing textile mills will be further equipped and the installations for semifinished hemp and flax products will be completed.

A sugar mill with a capacity of 10,000 tons will be built at Maliq and will begin production in 1951. This mill will cover internal requirements. A vegetable oil plant with a capacity of 4,000 tons per year will be built and will begin operation in 1951.

Macaroni production will increase from 2,440 tons in 1948 to 4,000 tons in 1950. The use of rubber in making shoes will greatly increase the production of this commodity. From 90,000 pairs in 1948, the production of shoes, slippers, and peasant shoes will be increased to 807,000 pairs in 1950. This increased production

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will cover almost all the needs of the people. A new foundry will be built at the "Kruja" plant and the production capacity will increase from 57 tons in 1948 to 355 tons in 1950. Work on the hydroelectric power plant at Selite will continue and the installation will begin producing current in 1951. The investments in this plant will amount to 274 million lek. A new survey will be made of water power resources, which are abundant in Albania. The construction materials industry will increase the production of bricks from 9 million in 1948 to 23 million in 1950. The construction of a cement plant with an annual production of 40,000 tons will be studied. In the wood industry, two new mills will be built with the capacity of handling 25,000 cubic meters of wood per year; other mills for making cardboard and veneering will be built. Special measures will be taken to ensure the proper application of the plan and to reduce the cost price of manufactured articles. These measures will serve to increase government reserves. More food products will be made available through local industry.

Not only the quantitative but also the qualitative fulfillment of the plan will be stressed. Agriculture and viticulture will receive 568 million lek, to be invested in state and private holdings and, as a consequence, the main consumption needs will be covered. In order to supply industry with raw materials and to increase Albanian exports, the area under cultivation will be increased from 317,000 hectares in 1948 to 357,000 hectares in 1950. The area devoted to growing cereals for feeding the population will be increased from 233,900 hectares in 1948 to 245,300 hectares in 1950. Industrial plants will be grown on 35,000 hectares in 1950 as against 25,120 hectares in 1948. The necessary seed grains will be grown domestically. Modern farming methods will be applied in order to increase and improve production.

An allotment of 318 million lek will be used for irrigation projects which will enlarge and improve the arable area. Municipal sewage and sanitation will also be considered.

Machine-tractor stations will be given more tractors. The area cultivated by tractors will increase to 56,620 hectares in 1950, compared to 19,174 hectares in 1948. State farms will produce much more fruit and vegetables and will supply the cities with these.

State farms will raise cattle for milk and meat, grow seed grain, and raise poultry. The cultivated area of these farms will be increased from 5,294 hectares in 1948 to 7,104 hectares in 1950.

The number of fruit trees is to be increased from 5,520,000 trees in 1947 to 6,255,000 trees in 1950. Poultry production will be 500,000 and many more cattle will be raised. It is planned to conduct reforestation on 1,301 hectares. Fishing will increase 148 percent in 1950 compared to 1946.

The Tirana-Yzberishe and Peqin-Elbasan railroad lines will be built. From 4,533,000 ton-kilometers in 1948 there will be an increase to 16,655,000 ton-kilometers in 1950. Passenger traffic will increase from 8,100,000 passenger-kilometers in 1948 to 28,668,000 passenger-kilometers in 1950. The capacity of the shipyards will be increased so that by 1950 ships up to 500 tons can be built.

Eighty-three million lek will be spent on harbor constructions in order that large ships may be moored.

Vehicular transportation will be allocated 62 million lek so that passenger and freight capacity can be increased.

National commerce will increase and the masses will be supplied with needed articles. The general circulation of goods in commerce will be 224 percent in 1950 compared to 1938 and 140 percent compared to 1948.

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Local industry will be encouraged to develop small food industries.

The allocation for buildings, roads, and houses in the communes will be 134 million lek.

Special attention will be given to raising the cultural level of the masses. The main task will be to combat illiteracy. Better teachers will be sent to the towns. Compulsory elementary schooling will be rigidly enforced. The number of elementary schools for the 1950-51 scholastic year will be 1,945, or 302.4 percent compared to 1938-39 and 105.1 percent compared to 1948-49. The number of pupils in the elementary schools will be 337.5 percent compared to 1938 and 107.2 percent compared to 1948. The number of pupils in the secondary schools will be 362 percent compared to prewar years and 178.3 percent compared to 1948-49.

In the field of public health, the number of hospitals and sanatoriums will be 875 percent compared to prewar years and 135 percent compared to 1948. These institutions will have 5,445 beds, or 672 percent compared to prewar years.

Particular attention will be given to increasing the number of qualified personnel. Courses for the training of qualified personnel will be organized at the work and production centers. The number of pupils will reach 6,400. Special schools will be opened and the number of secondary technical schools increased; the enrollment in these schools will reach 4,400 pupils. Workers and students will be sent to the Soviet Union and to the people's democracies for specialized training and then will be used to train others.

Living conditions of the working masses will be improved by the investment of 105 million lek, which will be used for buildings, dwellings, and factory kitchens.

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